

SENATE RESOLUTION No. ____

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED RESOLUTION

A SENATE RESOLUTION memorializing Larry Aiken.

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_____, read first time and referred to Committee on



Introduced

Second Regular Session 116th General Assembly (2010)

SENATE RESOLUTION

MADAM PRESIDENT:

I offer the following resolution and move its adoption:

A SENATE RESOLUTION memorializing Larry Aiken.

Whereas, Larry Aiken passed away on Saturday, February 13, 2010, at the age of 69;

Whereas, Larry attended Culver and Stanley Hall Elementary Schools and Bosse High School. During his years as a student at Bosse, he became known as "Lonesome Larry" on radio station WEOA and hosted a teen dance party show on WEHT-TV.

Whereas, Larry broadcasted his radio show at Austin's Drive-In on Kentucky Avenue and the Penny Can Market on Lincoln Avenue. He promoted his first show at the Veteran's Coliseum, "The Escorts", in 1957;

Whereas, After leaving Bosse in 1958, Larry became a disc jockey at WAKY in Louisville, Kentucky, followed by the ABC affiliate station, KQV in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. While at KQV, he was sent to New York City to provide color commentary for NIT basketball games for the station;

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Whereas, In 1962, Larry returned to Evansville to begin a career in show promotions. Larry promoted over 1,700 events throughout the United States including country, rock, and pop concerts, Broadway plays and musicals, tennis matches, the Dick Clark Caravan of Stars, the Harlem Globetrotters, the Ringling Brothers and Barnum and Bailey Circus, and Lippizaner Stallions shows;

Whereas, Larry opened the Music Inn at the then new Washington Square Mall, rehabilitated the old Rosedale Theater into Theater A, Becks's Bar into The Pub, and the Columbia Theater into Cine West, which later became The Beer Garden, a popular night club which featured such live entertainment as Tony Orlando and Tiny Tim;

Whereas, Larry opened another Theater A in Fort Wayne, founded the Applause Dinner Theater in the Executive Inn Building, Records Tapes and Tickets at Washington Square Mall and Town Center Mall, the ticket agency Select-A-Seat, Chelsea's Restaurant, Greeley's Restaurant, Dr. Watson's Restaurant in Memphis, Tennessee, and the real estate development Lake Newburgh in Newburgh, Indiana;

Whereas, Larry bought WGBF AM-FM and made it into one of the most popular radio stations in the Tri-State;

Whereas, In Evansville, Larry presented shows at the Mesker Amphitheater, the Veteran's Coliseum, Roberts Stadium, Bosse Field, The Michael D. Vandever Victory Theater, and the Vanderburgh Auditorium;

Whereas, When his high school friend, Mike Vandever, became a candidate for Mayor, Larry became involved in local Democratic politics. When his friend, Rick Borries, ran for Mayor, Larry was there to help with his campaign. He became involved once again when Mayoral candidate, Jonathan Weinzapfel, placed his name on the ballot;



Whereas, Larry loved Evansville and enjoyed creating interesting places and special events in his hometown. He was deeply moved and honored by The Center Auditorium being named Aiken Theater at the February 28, 2009 "Lonesome Larry Roast";

*Whereas, Larry Aiken is survived by his wife and two sons:
Therefore,*

*Be it resolved by the Senate of the
General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*

- 1 SECTION 1. The Indiana Senate memorializes Larry Aiken.
- 2 SECTION 2. The Secretary of the Senate is hereby
- 3 directed to transmit a copy of this Resolution to his family.

